

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/522,942

Applicant(s)

SCHUTZ ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Alyson M. Merlino

3676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 27 July 2007 (Amendment).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 24-46.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JENNIFER H. GAY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Friedrich Kueffner on 15 August 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims

Claim 24, line 17, delete the word "for" and insert --by--.

Claim 24, line 38, delete the word "being" and insert --is--.

Claim 24, line 43, delete the word "being" and insert --is--.

Claim 24, line 47, insert the phrase --of the-- between the phrase "a last phase" and "outward-pivoting movement."

Claim 26, rewrite the claim as: --The lock cylinder according to Claim 24, wherein the lock cylinder is mounted with an axis in a plane perpendicular to the pivoting movement of the combination.--

Claim 29, line 3, delete the word "the" preceding the phrase "bearing means" and insert --a--.

Claim 31, line 4, insert the word --protective-- between the word "the" and "sleeve."

Claim 34, line 3, delete the word "of" and insert --through--.

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Claim 34, line 4, delete the word "closing" and insert --closes--.

Claim 34, line 5, delete the word "forming" and insert --forms--.

Claim 34, line 15, delete the word "additional."

Claim 35, line 6, delete the word "limiting" and insert --limits--.

Claim 35, line 6, insert the phrase --of the combination-- after the word "angle."

Claim 39, line 1, delete the word "a" and insert --the--.

Claim 41, line 3, delete the word "of" preceding the phrase "the pivot axis" and insert --to--.

Claim 43, lines 5 and 6, delete the phrase "wherein the working arm acts on other functional parts."

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Although the references of record show some similar features of applicant's claimed device, they fail to show or teach the claimed invention, wherein a lock assembly includes a structural combination of a lock cylinder and a handle, and a rotating coupler including a rotating coupler element having a stationary opposing element mounted at a defined location on the mobile part so as to act on the lock. Furthermore, when the combination is in a closed position, the stationary opposing element is uncoupled from the rotating coupler element and when the combination is in an outward-pivoting position, the stationary opposing element is in rotating engagement with the rotating coupler element. Also, the stationary opposing element of the rotating coupler is arranged in a vertical plane in which the rotating coupler element moves during a coupling movement of the

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combination, and the rotating coupler element has a coupling point that engages during a last phase of the outward-pivoting movement of the combination with an opposing coupling point of the stationary opposing element. The examiner believes that there is no proper motivation to combine the references of record to produce the applicant's claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

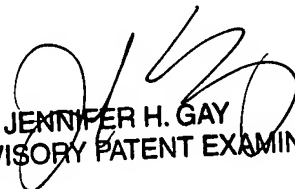
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alyson M. Merlino whose telephone number is (571) 272-2219. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jennifer Gay can be reached on (571) 272-7029. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AM^{AM}
August 15, 2007


JENNIFER H. GAY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER